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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/527,800 |
| Confirmation Number | 9561 |
| Filing Date | March 15, 2005 |
| First Named Inventor | Hikofumi YAMAMOTO et al. |
| Art Unit | 3683 |
| Examiner Name | Melody M. Burch |
| Sheet | One |
| Of | one |
| Attorney Docket Number | 052277 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
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| | | Number | Kind Code ³ (if known) | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| mB | JP | 2568225 | | | 1/16/1998 | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd. | yes |
| | JP | 6002735 | | | 1/11/1994 | Toyoda Gosei KK et al. | Yes (abstract) |
| | JP | 2001020992 | | | 1/23/2001 | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd. | Yes (abstract) |
| | JP | 6249282 | | | 9/6/1994 | Toyoda Gosei KK | Yes (abstract) |
| | JP | 5-10839 | | | 2/12/1993 | Hosei Brake Industry Co., Ltd. | yes |
| | JP | 2001173689 | | | 6/26/2001 | Koyo Seiko Co | Yes (abstract) |
| | JP | 57-37113 | | | 3/1/1982 | Sankei Giken Kogyo KK | Yes (partial) |
| | JP | 2002-13583 | | | 1/18/2002 | Tokai Rubber Ind. Ltd. | Yes (abstract) |
| | JP | 2003083391 | | | 3/19/2003 | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd. | Yes (abstract) |
| mB | JP | 8-2104289 | | | 8/20/1996 | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd. | Yes (abstract) |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | International search report of PCT/JP2004/004473. | |
| | | International search report of PCT/JP03/03904. | |

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| Examiner Signature | Melody M. Burch | Date Considered | 1/10/07 |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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